

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TEHRAN 04786 210845Z

11

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ARA-10 EUR-12 EA-10 ISO-00 FEA-01

ERDA-07 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 CIEP-02 COME-00 DODE-00

EB-07 FPC-01 H-02 INR-07 INT-05 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05

OMB-01 PM-03 USIA-15 SAM-01 OES-05 SP-02 SS-15 STR-04

TRSE-00 FRB-01 PA-02 PRS-01 /144 W

----- 120414

P R 210757Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1623

INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY BAGHDAD UNN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY CARACAS

AMCONSUL DHAHRAN

AMEMBASSY DOHA

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY QUITO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION OECD PARIS

UNCLAS TEHRAN 4786

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: ENRG, IR

SUBJ: PRESS FLAP OVER IMAGINARY "SECRET OIL MEETING"

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1. FOLLOWING RASTAKHIZ PARTY NEWSPAPER'S STORY (PICKED UP BY WIRE SERVICES) ON SUPPOSED SECRET OIL MEETING AT WHICH "SPECIAL ENVOYS" FROM U.S., EC, SAUDI ARABIA AND OTHERS REPORTEDLY ARRANGED RESUMPTION OF PARIS PREPCON, OTHER IRANIAN NEWSPAPERS HAVE PUBLISHED STORIES RANGING FROM LESS IMAGINATIVE TREATMENT OF SUBJECT TO DENIAL. PERSIAN ETTELE'AT (ARTICLE HEADLINED "PRELIMINARY STEPS TAKEN TO ORGANIZE ENERGY CONFERENCE") AND KAYHAN (ARTICLE MISTITLED "SECRET ENERGY MEETING HELD IN TEHRAN," SAME HEADLINE USED BY RASTAKHIZ) BOTH CLARIFIED THAT THERE WAS NO "SECRET" MEETING BUT ADDED UP SHAH'S TRAVEL TO SAUDI ARABI, VENEZUELA AND U.S., SEPARATE VISITS HERE BY TAHER OF PETROMIN, US UNDERSECRETARY ROBINSON, EC COMMISSIONER SOAMES, SECRETARY'S KANSAS CITY SPEECH, AND DECIDED SUM OF ALL THESE EQUALS ACTIVE PREPARATION FOR PROMPT RESUMPTION OF P/C PREPCON.

2. WE UNDERSTAND CBI GOVERNOR AND HEAD OF GOI PREPCON DEL MOHAMMED YEGANEH HAS BEEN TRYING TO GET MEDIA TO CORRECT AND CALRIFY ALL THIS WITH SOME SUCCESS. KAYHAN INTERNATIONAL (KI) LEADLINE MAY 20 READS "REPORTS OF 'SECRET' TEHRAN OIL MEET DENIED." KAYHAN ARTICLE CITES DENIALS FROM USG, GOF, AND "A SPOKESMAN FOR THE SHAHANSHAH IN PARIS." KI NOTES THAT TEXT OF ORIGINAL RASTAKHIZ AND PERSIAN KAYHAN ARTICLES USED ADJECTIVE "SECRET" ONLY IN CONNECTION WITH PETROMIN CHIEF TAHER'S VISIT, AND CLAIMED ONLY THAT U.S., FRENCH, EC AND SAUDI REPS HAD VISITED TEHRAN RECENTLY AND TELKED "INDIVIDUALLY AND COLLECTIVELY ON THE ENERGY TALKS ISSUE." KI NOTES "MAIN BASIS" FOR ARTICLE WAS SHAH'S TALKS WITH SAUDI, VENEZUELA, U.S. AND FRENCH HEADS OF STATE AND "SLIGHT TONING DOWN OF U.S. STAND ON RAW MATERIALS ANNOUNCED BY SECSTATE KISSINGER LAST WEEK. FINALLY, KI GLOATINGLY COMMENTS THAT "THE STORM SEEMS TO HAVE BEEN CAUSED BY HEADLINE WRITER READING TOO MUCH INTO A STORY WICH OFFERS SPECULATION AS CONCRETE FACTS."
MIKLOS

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